

October 14, 2014

A regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m., October 14, 2014.

Members present: Mayor Robert T Wandrei; Councilman Robert D. Carson; Councilman Stacey L. Hailey; Councilman Steve C. Rush; Councilman C. G. Stanley, Jr.; Councilman W. D. Tharp; and Vice Mayor James A. Vest

Members absent: None

Staff present: Town Manager Charles P. Kolakowski; Town Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher

Mayor Wandrei opened the meeting and led all present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On motion by Vice Mayor Vest, seconded by Councilman Rush, voted upon and carried unanimously, the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on September 23, 2014, were approved as distributed.

Mayor Wandrei welcomed the new Chief of Police, Todd Foreman.

Town Manager Kolakowski reported on the following:

- Crime Prevention Day will be held on October 16 at the Farmers Market – the Police Department will be sponsoring activities on that day. Chief Foreman said the activities will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The Chief said that it is an event to try to get families out and build relationships with the community.
- There has been discussion about having an advisory committee on the reuse of the Middle School - members of the public who would be interested in being appointed by Council to serve on that committee can contact Council members or the Town Manager's office for consideration by Council.
- Bids have been received for the solid waste collection for the Town – staff is reviewing those bids and finalizing the numbers – requested that a Solid Waste Committee meeting be held next week to review the proposals and recommendations from staff so that the Committee can make a recommendation to the entire Council, potentially at the next Council meeting.
- The Bedford Regional Water Authority is requesting a meeting either with Council as a whole or with representatives of Council to discuss various issues of mutual concern between the Authority and the Town. It was determined that Council could meet with the Authority prior to the regular Council meeting on November 25 at 6:00 p.m. in a workshop setting to discuss their concerns. Mr. Kolakowski will contact the Authority regarding the suitability of the date.

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- The Housing & Redevelopment Authority has been getting active – there have been discussions of a loan program being reinstituted for residential properties and there have been discussions about trying to develop programs for small business redevelopment within the area. A meeting between a committee from the Authority and the Finance Committee could be held to discuss the following: programs for not only residential redevelopment and residential improvements in designated areas, but also designating areas for small business redevelopment focusing on businesses that are vacant or may become vacant; developing programs to assist small businesses in opening and remaining open.
- Leaf collection will begin next week in designated areas – asked that residents remain patient and cooperate by keeping branches and trash out of the leaves.

Councilman Rush asked about a letter included in the Council packet from Mr. Key. The Town Manager said the letter was put in the packet for information purposes and may be brought up for action at the next Council meeting.

Councilman Carson thanked the Mayor and Council members who supported and attended the NAACP Banquet.

Mayor Wandrei spoke about the Bedford Regional Water Authority digging up a big section of Lee Street and said the street is in a horrible condition. The Mayor said the Authority should consider surface treating it or putting in more dirt.

Town Manager Kolakowski said he thought the Authority had been contacted earlier in the day about that particular situation and this situation will be followed up on to make sure it is done sooner than later. Mr. Kolakowski said the Authority is going out to bid to have the final repair done as this is a larger job than normal.

Vice Mayor Vest, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the Audit Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2014. The Vice Mayor said the Committee approved a resolution to fund the fireworks, \$3,600 in a donation and \$636 in-kind and asked that this be added to the agenda.

The Mayor said the item regarding the funding of fireworks was added to the agenda.

Julie Moore, Brown Edwards & Company, presented the FY 2014 Audit Report. Ms. Moore said the objectives are to express an opinion on the statement, to report on compliance, and report on internal control. Mr. Moore said the results were: a clean opinion on the financial statement and on internal control.

Amanda Adams, Executive Director of Bedford Main Street, gave a presentation to Council regarding 2014-2015 fiscal year event calendar, the 33rd annual Centerfest, and cumulative program statistics. Ms. Adams also spoke about the Farmer's Market and a Merchant Survey that will be taken in the spring of 2015.

Ms. Adams explained that a meeting will be held in October or November to get feedback from the farmers and the customers about the 2014 season.

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Ms. Adams said there wasn't a huge response to the Merchant Survey that was taken in 2013. She said the plan for upcoming survey will be to contact merchants by telephone, email, and going door to door. Ms. Adams said the plan is to contact the property owners also.

A discussion ensued regarding complaints received by Council members regarding the Farmer's Market only being open one day a week.

The Mayor asked why people could not use the Farmer's Market any day of the week.

Ms. Adams said Main Street was asked to monitor the market.

The Town Manager said that there needs to be a level of control over what is sold at the market, how it is sold, and how the property is maintained.

The Mayor said that when the market is not being utilized, he did not understand why someone could not come in and sell.

Councilman Tharp stated he felt Mayor Wandrei had made an excellent point.

Town Manager Kolakowski said the operations of the market will be reviewed at the meeting with the vendors being held by Main Street in October or November.

Councilman Rush asked about the façade grants. Ms. Adams reported there is \$2,000 in the budget, which would allocate about \$250. She said that Main Street would like to raise that amount to \$500.

Mayor Tharp thanked Ms. Adams for the presentation and said that she was doing a commendable job.

On motion by Councilman Rush, seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, Council agreed to fund the July 2015 fireworks, \$3,600 in cash and \$636 in-kind. Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Carson	aye
Councilman Hailey	aye
Councilman Rush	aye
Councilman Stanley	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Vice Mayor Vest	aye
Mayor Wandrei	aye

Mayor Wandrei adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m. until October 20, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Bedford County Board of Supervisors at the Bedford Welcome Center.